

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00  
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 PC-01 IO-13  
COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01 HA-05 /101 W  
-----065037 201928Z /43

O 201815Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 4627  
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY CARACAS NIACT IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE  
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE  
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 2733

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, PEPER, PINS, PR  
SUBJECT: POLITICAL SITUATION AS VOTE COUNT CONTINUES

1. VOTE COUNTING AT MUNICIPAL ELECTION BOARDS CONTINUES AND  
FIRST RESULTS HAVE BEGUN TO BE ANNOUNCED PUBLICLY WITH NATIONAL  
DISTRICT BOARD ANNOUNCEMENT OF TALLY (SEPTTEL).

2. EMBOFF CALLED CENTRAL ELECTORAL BOARD (JCE) CHAIRMAN CASTILLO  
THIS MORNING TO ASSESS SITUATION OF JCE. CASTILLO CONFIRMED THAT  
COMPUTATION OF VOTES AT NATIONAL LEVEL WOULD BEGIN ON MONDAY  
MORNING IN FULL PRESENCE OF PARTY DELEGATES AND PRESS. HE HAS  
ALREADY BEGUN TO RECEIVE SOME OF OFFICIAL REPORTS FROM COUNTRY'S  
86 MUNICIPAL ELECTION BOARDS WHICH WILL BE BASIS OF NATIONAL TALLY.  
HE EXPECTED BY MONDAY HE WOULD HAVE MANY MORE.

3. AS JCE'S LABOR CONTINUES AND LIFE IN THE COUNTRY RETURNED  
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TO NORMAL POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE HAS BEEN DOMINATED BY A DEBAGE  
OVER THE NUMBERS. PRD YESTERDAY RELEASED FIGURES BASED ON ITS  
OWN TALLY OF VOTE SHOWING ON BASIS OF 90 PERCENT OF VOTE IT HAD  
DEFEATED REFORMIST PARTY (PR) 1,263,369 TO 774,262 NATIONALLY,  
A DIFFERENCE OF 489,107 VOTES.

4. PR PUBLISHED A COMMUNIQUE IN MORNING PAPERS TODAY ATTACKING

"INCONSISTENCY" OF PRD FIGURES, CONCLUDING THAT THIS "DEMONSTRATED IN PART THE MAGNITUDE OF THE FRAUD COMMITTED." PR'S POINT IS THAT PRD FIGURES DON'T ADD UP. DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PRD TOTAL AND NUMBER OF REGISTERED VOTERS IS ONLY SOME 240,000 VOTES. PR MAKES POINT THAT IF ONE ADDS NUMBER OF VOTES FOR OTHER PARTIES BESIDE PR AND PRYHN TEN PERCENT OF VOTE NOT COMPUTED IN PRD FIGURES, THE NUMBER OF "OBSERVED" VOTES (I.E. VOTES WHICH BECAUSE OF SOME IRREGULARITY WERE SET ASIDE FOR LATER DETERMINATION OF WHETHER THEY WOULD BE ADMITTED OR ANNULLED AND ARE NOT COUNTED IN OFFICIAL TALLIES), AND "NORMAL" 15 PERCENT ABSTENTION, THEN THE TOTAL WOULD WELL SURPASS THE NUMBER OF REGISTERED VOTERS.

5. MORNING'S LISTIN AIARIO NOTES DEBATE OVER FIGURES AND POINTS OUT THAT NEITHER PRD CLAIMS (WHICH LISTIN CALLS "EXAGGERATED AND UNREALISTIC") NOR PR CRITIQUE HAVE ANY LEGAL BASIS, AND URGES ALL PARTIES TO AWAIT THE JCE'S OFFICIAL RESULTS. IF PARTIES DISAGREE WITH OFFICIAL FIGURES THERE EXISTS FULL LEGAL RECOURSE TO CHALLENGE THEM. LISTIN AFFIRMS THAT BASED ON PRELIMINARY RESULTS RELEASED EVENING OF MAY 16 AND REPORTS FROM ITS OWN CORRESPONDENTS, IT HAS CONCLUDED PRD IS IN FACT THE WINNER.

6. YESTERDAY AFTERNOON NATINAL POLICE CHIEF MGEN NEIT NIVAR ISSUED STATEMENT APPEARING IN MORING PRESS DECLARING HIS RESPECT FOR THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF THE REPUBLIC. NIVAR SAID UNDER HIS LEADERSHIP POLICE HAD IMPROVED ITS PERFORMANCE IN FIGHT AGAINST CRIME AND PRESERVATION OF PUBLIC ORDER FOR WHICH INSTITUTION

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HAD RECEIVED PUBLIC PRAISE. HE SAID THAT "VERSIONS WICH RUN CONTRARY TO THESE AFIRMATIONS COME FROM INTERESTED DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN SOURCES WICH HAVE NEVER BEEN SYMPATHETIC" TO POLICE. STATEMENT IS TAKEF TO BE REFUTATION OF FOREIGN NEWS STORIES OF DOMINICAN SITUATION ATTRIBUTING TO NIVAR LEADERSHIP IN MILITARY INTERVENTION IN ELECTIONS WHICH TOOK PLACE MAY 17. HOWEVER, STATEMENT BY NIVAR IS ALSO SEEN AS POSITIVE IN ITS AFFIRMATION OF RESPECT FOR CONSTITUTION BY LISTIN DIARIO EDITORIAL THIS MORNING.

7. ANOTHER POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT WAS LETTER ISSUED LAST NIGHT BY PRESIDENT BALAGUER ADDRESSED TO NIVAR AND ARMED FORCES SECRETARY BEAUCHAMP CALLING FOR ALL TROOPS AND POLICE TO BE WITHDRAWN FROM JCE AND ITS OFFICES AROUND COUNTRY. BALAGUER SAID MEASURE WAS TO REMOVE ANY DOUBT THAT MILITARY GUARD AT BOARD WAS INTERFERING IN THE ELECTORAL PROCESS. LISTIN TODAY LAUDS MEASURE BUT WONDERS WHETHER JCE WILL NOT THEN LOSE ADEQUATE SECURITY. IN CALL TO CASTILLO THIS MORNING (ABOVE) EMBOFF ASKED JCE CHAIRMAN ABOUT HIS. CASTILLO SAID THAT WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS IS ON BALANCE AN IMPROVEMENT AND SAID THAT DESPITE PRESIDENTIAL ORDER HE WOULD REQUEST ADEQUATE SECURITY FOR CENTRAL JCE OFFICE.

8. PRD PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE GUZMAN'S UPBEAT STATEMENT OF YESTERDAY (REPORTED SEPTTEL) REFLECTS PRD MOOD OF CONFIDENCE THAT THING WILL REMAIN NORMAL AND THAT PARTY WILL EMERGE VICTORIOUS.

9. COMMENT. OVERALL SITUATION HAS SUBSTANTIALLY STABILIZED AND ELECTIN VOTE COUNT APPARS TO BE BACK ON TRACK. NOW THERE IS GREAT EXPECTATION OVER WHAT THE FINAL OFFICIAL TALLY OF VOTES WILL BE. REFORMIST PARTY ATTACH ON PRD FIGURES, PERHAPS AN IRRESISTABLE TARGET, INDICATES THAT BALAGUER FOLLOWING HAS FAR FROM CONCEDED ELECTION TO PRD, THOUGH JUST ABOUT EVERYONE ELSE, INCLUDING MANY REFORMISTAS, HAVE. HOWEVER, PRESENT CALM AND AIR OF NORMALITY, WHILE REAL, ARE FRAGILE, CONFIDENTIAL

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PENDING ASSESSMENT OF FINAL JCE OFFICIAL FIGURES.

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 20 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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